Week Ending Friday, January 14, 2000

Statement on Proposed Funding for Little Rock Air Force Base

January 7, 2000

I am pleased to announce today that my budget for next year will include \$30 million for a C–130J flight training simulator at the Little Rock Air Force Base. The Little Rock Air Force Base, the preeminent training location for C–130's, has long served a highly significant role in our Nation's system of national defense.

In fiscal year 2002 my budget provides \$10 million for a facility to house this simulator. I am also calling for upgrades to the existing simulators—one each in fiscal year 2001, fiscal year 2002, and fiscal year 2003—for a total of over \$12 million. Also, due to the strong efforts of Representative Snyder, we will also fund over \$9 million for a much needed fitness facility at the base.

Finally, my budget will call for four C-130J's—two for the Air Force and two for the Marines.

I believe the simulators, the associated facilities, and the planes I am announcing today will support the Little Rock Air Force Base as it continues to serve the vital function of training our Nation's pilots, and will ensure a strong C–130 fleet, continuing its vital role in protecting U.S. national interests.

I want to specifically thank Senator Blanche Lincoln and Representative Vic Snyder for their tireless efforts on behalf of the base. Without their attention to every detail of this program, I would not be making this announcement today. I look forward to working with Congress to ensure that these important components are fully funded in next year's budget.

NOTE: This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

The President's Radio Address

January 8, 2000

Good morning. January is the time of year when many of us make New Year's resolutions and work hard to keep them. Today I want to talk about steps we're taking to keep a resolution of mine—making sure women and men get the health care they need to have strong children and healthy families.

First, our administration has worked hard to make sure all women have access to prenatal care. We know when women get medical attention before a baby is born, that child is much more likely to be born healthy. And good health is the most precious gift we can offer a child or a family.

Second, we worked with Congress to make sure that every woman covered by Federal Government health insurance has reproductive health care coverage—including prescription contraceptives. That was a significant step for more than a million American women, and it set a standard for insurance coverage around the country.

Third, when I took office, we faced an epidemic of teen pregnancy—children having children. Over the last 7 years, we've reached out to community groups, schools, and health professionals working in an amazing network of American citizens from all walks of life. And together, the American people have cut teen pregnancy by 15 percent.

Fourth, we've made a broad range of family planning and sex education programs more widely available for all Americans. And by making sure women have family planning choices, we are helping to make abortion more rare.

Today I'm glad to announce we will be increasing funds for family planning and reproductive health care by \$35 million next year. My budget for 2001 will include \$274 million in grants for clinics and community-